Telecast of Weather Forecast by Doordarshan

746. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Ministry has asked the Doordarshan to telecast weather forecasts round the clock throughout the day, particularly during the monsoon season on lines of the BBC;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Doordarshan thereto;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore;

(d) whether Government agree that round the clock weather forecasts are necessary for agriculture; and

(e) what steps will be taken to this effect?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (e) No such proposal has been received by Doordarshan from the Ministry of Agriculture. Since there is no round the clock transmission of the news from Doordarshan at present, it is not possible to telecast weather reports on the lines of BBC. Such an arrangement will necessitate extra manpower, infrastructural facilities etc. which is not feasible at present. However, from time to time special weather warnings reported by the Meteriological Office are noticed by Doordarshan in its news bulletins besides daily weather reports which form a regular part of Doordarshan's news bulletins.

दूरदर्शन नेटवर्क पर कार्यरत उपग्रह चैनल

747. **श्री अजीत जोगी:**
श्री शमशेर सिंह सुरजेवाला:

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस समय दूरदर्शन नेटवर्क पर कार्यरत उपग्रह चैनलों की संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) क्या सरकार का कुछ नए चैनल प्रारम्भ करने का विचार है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) क्या कुछेक कार्यक्रम बच्चों और युवाओं के हितों और उनके नैतिक मूल्यों के विपरीत निरन्तर प्रसारित किए जा रहे हैं;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(च) क्या उत्पाद के विज्ञापन के नाम पर प्रतिदिन अश्लीलता को प्रोत्साहन दिया जा रहा है; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो इसे रोकने के लिए सरकार का क्या कदम उठाने का विचार है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री एस॰ जयपाल रेड्डी): (क) अठारह, श्रीमन्।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) जी, नहीं।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(च) जी, नहीं।

(छ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Discontinuation of Films Division News

748. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Films Division News, which used to precede exhibition of any feature film in a Cinema hall, has lately been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons for discontinuing the same; and

(c) whether it used to serve an important object of informing the Cinegoers about the latest and current developments both at national and international levels?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) The exhibition of Indian Newsreel (INR) which used to precede exhibition of feature films in cinema halls was discontinued in 1984 because by the time the news reel reached the audience in some parts of the country, the news content generally lost its relevance. In its place, news documentaries (called "News Magazines") are released to

theatres for exhibiting the same before feature films. These News documentaries contain development stories and other important events of National/International importance.

Misuse of Funds by Rajkot Doordarshan

749. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount has been sanctioned by the Director-General Doordarshan to the Ahmedabad, Rajkot and Bhuj Doordarshan Kendras for the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what was the actual amount spent on their projects, year-wise;

(c) what is the latest status of the project;

(d) whether there are some shortcomings;

(e) whether the Rajkot Doordarshan has misused the reserved funds for properties as the post of Property Assistant has been abolished by Station Director; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and stern action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The details are annexed as statement (*See* below).

(c) While the High Power TV transmitter (1KW) for relay of DD-II service at Ahmedabad has already been commissioned on 1.02.1995, the scheme for augmentation of Studio at Rajkot is in progress and expected to be completed by 1998, subject to completion of civil works and timely supply of remaining equipment. HPT (permanent set-up) at Bhuj with 300M tower, which is also presently under implementation, is expected to be redy by 1998.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

(f) Does nto arise.

Statement

Year-wise funds allocated and the Expenditure Incurred under Capital Grant during last three Years on Doordarshan Prjects at Ahmedabad, Rajkot and Bhuj

	Fund allocated (Rs. in lakhs)			Expenditure incurred (Rs. in lakhs)		
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
HPT (1KW) at Ahmedabad for DD-II service	-	88.95	119.11	-	86.19	119.77
Studio, Rajkot (Augmentation)	12.76	31.00	69.00	13.12	31.17	56.22
HPT, Bhuj (Permanent)	70.00	31.57	47.28	75.64	26.84	44.54

Note: For early start of DD-II service from HPT at Ahmedabad, equipment had to be diverted from elsewhere in the network. The equipment for this particular scheme was procured later on and payment were released in subsequent years.

Utilisation of funds for Producing Telefilms on Children

750. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of telefilms on children that were produced during the last three years;

(b) what was the amount earmarked for production of telefilms on children during this period;

(c) what are the reasons for non-utilising the funds given by Government; and

(d) what is the amount earmarked for the said purpose during the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Eleven telefilms on children were produced during the last three years. Their details are annexed as Statement (*See* below).

(b) No amount was earmarked specifically for children programmes. The expenditure on the telefilms in question was met from Doordarshan's Special Software Scheme Fund.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) An amount of rupees five crores has been earmarked for Special Audience Programmes from which programmes for